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REMARKS

The Examiner required restriction between method and apparatus claims and an election of species for the elected main group. Applicants elect the claims of Group II, namely claims 51 to 64 directed to a liquid crystal display. Claim 53 is elected as a specimen claim to comply with the requirement. That election is made with traverse for reasons developed below. All of claims 51 to 64 should be examined.

The Examiner asserts at page 4 of the Office Action that Group II (the page contains a typographical error discussed with the Examiner on March 10, 2005) contains allegedly patentably distinct species of claim invention corresponding to "Specification embodiments 3-7." The Examiner stated that no claim appeared to be generic.

The elected claim group has been amended to make claim 51 the generic claim, claim 52 depending therefrom and claims 53 to 55 all depending from claim 52 as revised. Applicants respectfully submit that the elected claims as amended can and should be examined as a group. Applicants do not understand the mention of specification embodiments 3-7 in the Office Action and point out with respect that the specification discusses at pages 12 to 30 and 49 to 59 the second group of inventions having seven various described embodiments.

Applicants also point out that the specification at page 49, line 22 to page 50, line 11 supports the change made to claim 52. Claims 53 to 64 are essentially descriptions of the first to seventh liquid crystal elements of the second group of inventions. Those claims have a number of common technical features including "an electric field direction of the liquid crystal between at least one pair of adjacent pixels is inclined against an electrode plane

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and "a non-conductive portion is provided in a part of the opposite electrode which is opposite to a gap between at least one pair of adjacent pixel electrodes."

The first to seventh liquid crystal elements in the second group of inventions represent variations in the shape or position of the non-conductive portion. The first to third liquid crystal elements specify minimum units 61 and 62 formed of sixteen pixels 1 which are varied as shown in instant Figs. 13, 16, and 17; the non-conductive portion 5 is dislocated according to each variation.

The fourth liquid crystal element has the pixel electrode 1 included in the first to third liquid crystal elements composed of three rectangular minor pixel electrodes for red, green, and blue.

The fifth liquid crystal element shows pixel electrode 1 as a rectangle rather than a square; see Fig. 19.

The sixth liquid crystal element has pixel electrode 1 arrayed in a delta system while the seventh liquid crystal element has the pixel electrode arrayed in a mosaic.

Applicants point out that the first liquid crystal element corresponds to claim 53, the second liquid crystal element corresponds to claim 54, the third liquid crystal element corresponds to claim 55, the fourth liquid crystal element corresponds to claim 59, the fifth liquid crystal element corresponds to claim 56, the sixth liquid crystal element corresponds to claim 62, and the seventh liquid crystal element corresponds to claim 58. As noted, applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, the first liquid crystal element corresponding to claim 53. However, for the reasons given above, it is respectfully submitted that all of claims 51 to 64 should be examined in this case.

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The Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned if further changes are required prior to merits examination.

Respectfully submitted,

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